REMARKS

Applicants add new claims 98-113; therefore, claims 1-113 are now pending in this application.

With regard to the claim amendments set forth above, Applicants note that:

- The claims are amended more fully to cover all aspects of Applicants' invention, and, in particular, more clearly to define the scope of the invention as <u>not</u> being limited to providing "explanatory **text segments**" associated with configuration parameters, but more <u>broadly</u> defined to provide <u>any</u> "explanatory **information**" (including, for example, visual and/or audio information) associated with configuration parameters. Of course, such "explanatory information" may comprise "text segments", as defined in the new claims 98-113.

- Independent claim 1 is amended at line 3 (as set forth above) to correct a minor grammatical error inadvertently introduced by Applicants' Amendment dated September 8, 2000.

- Independent claims 1, 36, 39, 49, 78, 80, 91, 94 and 95 are amended more positively to define the novel features of Applicants' automatic production of documentation for configurable computerized systems as recited therein which requires:

    organizing said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content
    of said information and said value associated with said parameter, into the
    documentation, or a portion of the documentation, for said configurable
    system (claim 1; see also claims 36, 39, 49, 78, 80, 91, 94 and 95).

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited prior art reference discloses,

teaches or suggests any methods or systems which retrieve a configurable system's

configuration parameters, output explanatory information associated with the retrieved

parameters, and <u>organize</u> the explanatory information into documentation for the

configurable system, as required by Applicants' claims 1, 36, 39, 49, 78, 80, 91, 94

and 95, as well as their respective dependent claims (which incorporate all the novel

and unobvious features of their base claims).

• Dependent claims 8, 18, 55, 59, 67 and 86 have been rewritten in independent form.

These claims do not recite the above-noted requirement of "organizing" the

explanatory information associated with the configuration parameters, but instead

define other novel aspects of Applicants' invention which facilitate automatic

production of documentation for configurable computerized systems. In particular,

one of the features recited in Applicants' claims 8, 43, 55 and 86 is:

> constructing a table of contents for said documentation, or a portion
> thereof (claim 8, see also claims 43, 55 and 86)

On the other hand, Applicants' claims 18 and 67 recite:

> generating an index of at least selected parameters of said configuration
> parameters, and said explanatory information, said index detailing
> relative location of at least one of said selected parameters and at least a
> portion of said explanatory information within said document (claim 18;
> see also claim 67)

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited prior art references discloses,

teaches, or suggests "constructing a table of content" or "generating an index" for any

of the information which these prior art references may generate, let alone teach or suggest doing so for configuration parameters, or for the explanatory information associated with such parameters. Likewise, with regard to claim 59, none of the prior art references discloses, teaches or suggests "maintaining an activity log detailing operations of said steps of retrieving [configuration parameters] and outputting [explanatory information corresponding with at least one of said configuration parameters]", as recited therein.

In view of the above, allowance of this application is now believed to be in order, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,
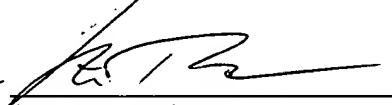
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Date: March 9, 2001

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Twice Amended)   A method for automatic production of documentation for configurable computerized systems, comprising the steps of:

a)   retrieving configuration parameters [from at least one configurable system] having values associated therewith, from a configurable system [into a computer];

b)   outputting explanatory [text segments] information corresponding with at least one of said configuration parameters and [the] a value associated with said parameter[, to form]; and

c)   organizing said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of said information and said value associated with said parameter, into the documentation, or a portion [thereof] of the documentation, for said configurable system.

2.   (Amended)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically selecting said explanatory [text segments] information by said computer, in accordance with said configuration parameters.

8.   (Amended)   [The] A method [of claim 1 further] for automatic production of documentation for configurable computerized systems, comprising the [step] steps of:

a)   retrieving configuration parameters having values associated therewith, from a configurable system into a computer;

b)   <u>outputting explanatory information corresponding with at least one of said</u>

<u>configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter, to form the documentation</u>

<u>or a portion thereof; and</u>

c)   <u>constructing a table of contents for said [document] <u>documentation, or a portion</u>

<u>thereof.</u>

17.   (Amended)   The method of claim 1 wherein at least [two of said] <u>a portion of</u>

<u>said</u> explanatory [text segments are being] <u>information is</u> grouped in accordance with

interrelationship [of their] <u>between configuration parameters</u> corresponding [parameters] <u>to said</u>

<u>portion of said explanatory information</u>.

18.   (Amended)   [The] <u>A</u> method [of claim 1 further] <u>for automatic production of</u>

<u>documentation for configurable computerized systems,</u> comprising the [step] <u>steps</u> of<u>:</u>

a)   <u>retrieving configuration parameters having values associated therewith, from a</u>

<u>configurable system into a computer;</u>

b)   <u>outputting explanatory information corresponding with at least one of said</u>

<u>configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter, to form the documentation</u>

<u>or a portion thereof; and</u>

c)   <u>generating an index of <u>at least</u> selected parameters <u>of said configuration</u>

<u>parameters,</u> and [paragraphs] <u>said explanatory information, said index</u> detailing relative location

of at least one of said selected parameters and [paragraphs] at least a portion of said explanatory information within said document.

27.   (Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein said explanatory [text] information is arranged in a [text] template having placeholders embedded therein [and], said method further comprising the step of merging the values associated with said configuration variables with the template in accordance with said placeholders.

36.   (Amended)   A system for automatic production of documentation for configurable computerized systems, comprising:

[a)] a first computer having data communication capability;

[b)] means for retrieving configuration parameters from a configurable system and communicating said parameters into said first computer;

[c)] means for generating explanatory [documentation] information specific [for] to said configurable system in accordance with said configuration parameters;

means for organizing said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of said explanatory information and values associated with said configuration parameters, into a documentation, or a portion of said documentation, for said configurable system; and [,

d)] means for outputting said documentation.

39.   (Twice Amended)   A system for automatic production of documentation for configurable computerized systems, comprising:

a)   a collector computer program adapted to retrieve configuration parameters from at least one configurable system;

b)   a documentation generator program, comprising:

i.   a [text] template having <u>explanatory information and</u> place holders indicating placement of one or more configuration parameters;

ii.   a data parser in communication with said collector program, said parser adapted to parse said configuration parameters into associated values and merge said values into said template; and [,]

iii.   an output module adapted to <u>organize said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of said explanatory information and said values associated with said configuration parameters, and to</u> output said [text] template with said merged values, to form the documentation or a portion [thereof] <u>of said documentation, for said at least one configurable system</u>.

43.   (Amended)   A method for automated production of documentation for configurable computerized system, comprising the steps of:

a)   [Downloading] <u>downloading</u> a collector computer program to a first computer

which is in communication with a configurable system;

b)   collecting configuration parameters from [a] <u>said</u> configurable system using said

collector program;

c)   transmitting said configuration parameters into a second computer having a

documentation generator program operable thereon;

d)   outputting<u>, using said documentation generation program,</u> a document [having]

<u>comprising:</u>

i.   explanatory [text] <u>information regarding at least a portion of said</u>

<u>configuration parameters;</u> [and]

ii.   said <u>portion of said</u> configuration parameters [embedded therein by means

of said documentation generator, wherein said document is characterized by having said

explanatory text being proximal to correlated configuration parameters,]<u>;</u> and [by having]

iii.   <u>a table of contents detailing relative location of <u>at least</u> certain segments of

said explanatory [text] <u>information</u>.

49.   (Twice Amended)   A method for automatic production of documentation for

configurable computerized systems, comprising the steps of:

a)   coupling a computer with at least a portion of a configurable system via an

Intranet;

b)   retrieving configuration parameters having values associated therewith, from [a]

said configurable system into said computer;

c)   outputting explanatory [text segments] information corresponding with at least

one of said configuration parameters and [the] a value associated with said parameter[, to form];

and

d)   organizing said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of said

information and said value associated with said parameter, into the documentation, or a portion

[thereof] of the documentation, for said configurable system.

50.   (Amended)   The method of claim 49 further comprising the step of

automatically selecting said explanatory [text segments] information by said computer, in

accordance with said configuration parameters.

55.   (Amended)   [The] A method [of claim 49 further] for automatic production of

documentation for configurable computerized systems, comprising the [step] steps of:

a)   coupling a computer with at least a portion of a configurable system via an

Intranet;

b)   retrieving configuration parameters having values associated therewith, from a

configurable system into a computer;

c)   outputting explanatory information corresponding with at least one of said

configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter, to form the documentation

or a portion thereof; and

d)   constructing a table of contents for said [document] documentation, or a portion

thereof.

59.   (Amended)   [The] A method [of claim 49 further] for automatic production of

documentation for configurable computerized systems, comprising the [step] steps of:

a)   coupling a computer with at least a portion of a configurable system via an

Intranet;

b)   retrieving configuration parameters having values associated therewith, from a

configurable system into a computer;

c)   outputting explanatory information corresponding with at least one of said

configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter, to form the documentation

or a portion thereof; and

d)   maintaining an activity log detailing operations of said steps of retrieving and

outputting.

66.   (Amended)   The method of claim 49 wherein at least [two of said] a portion of

said explanatory [text segments are being] information is grouped in accordance with

interrelationship [of their] between configuration parameters corresponding [parameters] to said

portion of said explanatory information.

67.   (Amended)   [The] A method [of claim 49 further] for automatic production of

documentation for configurable computerized systems, comprising the [step] steps of:

a)   coupling a computer with at least a portion of a configurable system via an

Intranet;

b)   retrieving configuration parameters having values associated therewith, from a

configurable system into a computer;

c)   outputting explanatory information corresponding with at least one of said

configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter, to form the documentation

or a portion thereof; and

d)   generating an index of at least selected parameters of said configuration

parameters, and [paragraphs] said explanatory information, said index detailing relative location

of at least one of said selected parameters and [paragraphs] at least a portion of said explanatory

information within said document.

72.   (Amended)   The method of claim 49 wherein at least [two of said] a portion of

said explanatory [text segments are being] information is grouped in accordance with

interrelationship [of their] between configuration parameters corresponding [parameters] to said

portion of said explanatory information.

78.   (Amended)   A system for automatic production of documentation for

configurable computerized systems, comprising:

[a)] a computer adapted to be coupled to a configurable system via an Intranet;

[b)] means for retrieving configuration parameters from said configurable system into

said computer;

[c)] means for generating explanatory [documentation] information specific [for] to said

configurable system in accordance with said configuration parameters;

means for organizing said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of

said explanatory information and values associated with said configuration parameters, into a

documentation, or a portion of said documentation, for said configurable system; and [,

d)] means for outputting said documentation.

80.   (Amended)   A system for automatic production of documentation for

configurable computerized systems, comprising:

a)   a computer coupled to said configurable system via an Intranet;

b) a collector program module operated on said computer and adapted to retrieve configuration parameters from at least one configurable system;

c) a documentation generator program module, comprising:

i. a [text] template having <u>explanatory information and</u> place holders indicating placement of one or more configuration parameters;

ii. a data parser in communication with said collector program <u>module</u>, said parser adapted to parse said configuration parameters into associated values and merge said values into said template; and [,]

iii. an output module adapted to <u>organize said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of said explanatory information and said values associated with said configuration parameters, and to</u> output said [text] template with said merged values, to form the documentation or a portion [thereof] <u>of said documentation, for said at least one configurable system</u>.

86. (Amended) A method for automated production of documentation for configurable computerized system, comprising the steps of:

a) retrieving configuration parameters from a configurable system, [a] into a computer that is in communication with said configurable system via an Intranet;

b) selecting explanatory[text segments] <u>information</u> in accordance with said configuration parameters;

c)   outputting a document [having] <u>comprising:</u>

i. _____ said [text segments] <u>explanatory information;</u> [and]

ii. _____ values associated with said configuration parameters [embedded therein, wherein said document is characterized by having said explanatory text being proximal to correlated configuration parameters,]<u>;</u> and [by having]

iii. _____ a table of contents detailing relative location of <u>at least</u> certain segments of said explanatory [text] <u>information.</u>

91.   (Amended)   A self documenting configurable system, comprising:

a)   [a plurality of text segments comprising] explanatory [text relating] <u>information related</u> to said configurable system;

b)   at least one software module constructed to

i. _____ merge a plurality of configuration parameter of said configurable system with <u>corresponding portions of said explanatory information</u> related [text segments] <u>to said configurable system,</u>

ii. _____ <u>organize said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of said explanatory information and values associated with said configuration parameters,</u> and

iii. _____ output said [text segment] <u>explanatory information</u> and <u>said</u> configuration parameters to form a document specific to [the] <u>an</u> instance of said configurable system.

94.   A method for automated production of documentation for a configurable software

system, having at least a portion of its behavior modifiable by configuration parameters stored in

a computer accessible store, said method comprising the steps of:

a)   embedding into said configurable software system a software module constructed

to merge configuration parameters and explanatory [text segments thereof] information

associated with said configuration parameters;

b)   retrieving said configuration parameters, said configuration parameters having

values associated therewith, from [a] said configurable system into a computer;

c)   outputting explanatory [text segments] information corresponding with at least

one of said configuration parameters and [the] a value associated with said parameter [, to form a

document]; and

d)   organizing said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content of said

information and said value associated with said parameter, into a documentation, or a portion of

the documentation, describing specifically said configurable software system as configured.

95.   A self documenting configurable software system having configuration

parameters stored in at least one computer data store, comprising:

a)   a first software module constructed to retrieve at least a portion of said

configuration parameters from said computer data store; and [,]

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c)   a <u>second</u> software module constructed to

i.   merge [text segments] <u>explanatory information</u> and <u>related parameters of</u> <u>at least said portion of</u> said configuration parameters [to produce]<u>,</u>

ii.   <u>organize said explanatory information, based on at least one of a content</u> <u>of said information and values associated with said relates parameters, into</u> a document<u>, or a</u> <u>portion of the document,</u> containing <u>a description</u> specific to said configurable system, and

iii.   output said document.